

**JUMLAH KOLONI STREPTOCOCCUS MUTANS PADA SALIVA PRIA
DAN WANITA DENGAN KARIES TINGGI**

**(SALIVARY STREPTOCOCCUS MUTANS COUNT IN MEN AND WOMEN
WITH HIGH CARIES RISK)**

ABSTRACT

Background. Dental caries was found to be higher in women than in men, and *Streptococcus mutans* has a close relationship with dental caries development. Based on previous studies, salivary *Streptococcus mutans* count was found to be more effective way of sampling than occlusal and buccal surfaces plaque *Streptococcus mutans* count. **Purpose.** The purpose of this study is to count salivary *Streptococcus mutans* colonies in men and women with high caries risk. **Material and method.** Thirty six saliva samples have been taken from 18 male and female respondents in endodontic clinic Airlangga University between August and October 2012. High caries risk was determined by using GC Salivary Check Buffer Kit. *Streptococcus mutans* from saliva samples then was cultured in TYC agar media and the colonies were counted by using colony counter. The microorganism colonies were statistically compared with Kolmogorov-Smirnov test to analyze data distribution. Independent “T” test was used to compare the values of the means from two samples, Levene test was used to analyze data homogeneity. **Result.** There are significant differences between each group, $p = 0,002$ ($p < 0,05$). **Conclusion.** Salivary *Streptococcus mutans* count was found to be higher in women than men.

Keywords : Sex difference, *Streptococcus mutans*, saliva, high caries risk.